

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CASABL 00175 111944Z

44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SIL-01

LAB-04 /062 W

----- 034480

R 111135Z FEB 76

FM AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3931

C O N F I D E N T I A L CASABLANCA 0175

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT MO

SUBJ: UMT DEPSEC GEN ACCUSES USFP IN OMAR BENJELLOUN MURDER

1. OMAR BENJELLOUN, FORMER EDITOR USFP NEWSPAPER AL MOHARRIR MURDERED LAST DECEMBER, WAS THE VICTIM OF HIS OWN CLOSE ASSOCIATES FROM AN EARLIER PERIOD ACCORDING TO MOHAMED ABDERRAZAK, DEPSEC GEN OF THE UMT (UNION MAROCAIN DE TRAVAIL, MOROCCO'S STRONGEST TRADE UNION FEDERATION).

2. IN A LUNCHEON DISCUSSION WITH CONSUL GENERAL AND POLITICAL LABOR OFFICER FEBRUARY 9TH, ABDERRAZAK SAID THAT REVELATIONS WOULD BE FORTHCOMING IMPLICATING AN EDITORIAL WRITER OF USFP NEWSPAPER, AL MOHARRIR. (UNION SOCIALIST DES FORCES POPULAIRES NOW DOMINANT LEFT CENTER POLITICAL PARTY AT EXPENSE OF UNFP PARTY SUPPORTED BY UMT). HE CLAIMED THAT PERPETRATORS OF THE MURDER WERE CLOSE FRIENDS OF OMAR BENJELLOUN WHO WORKED WITH HIM IN ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL TEACHERS UNION IN EARLY 1960S BUT THEY TURNED AGAINST BENJELLOUN WHEN THEY BECAME RELIGIOUS FANATICS AND BENJELLOUN APPEARED TO THEM TO BE LEFTIST ATHEIST. (ABDERRAZAK DID NOT EXPLAIN HOW BOTH RELIGIOUS FANATICS AND USFP ASSOCIATE COULD BE IMPLICATED IN SAME MURDER BUT HINTED TEACHER'S UNION POLITICS INVOLVED). HE ALLEGED THAT REASON USFP HAD NOT PRESSED GOVERNMENT FOR SOLUTION WAS BECAUSE USFP PERSONS WERE CONNECTED WITH THE ASSASSINATION.

3. PROVIDING DETAILS ON THE MURDER ITSELF, ABDERRAZAK SAID THAT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CASABL 00175 111944Z

BENJELLOUN WAS SHOT IN THE HEAD AND HIS HEART WAS THEN CAREFULLY

CUT OUT WITH A SHARP INSTRUMENT IN A KILLING OF RELIGIOUS VENGEANCE. (OTHER RELIABLE SOURCES REPORTED THAT BENJELLOUN WAS HIT OVER THE HEAD AND STABBED).

4. COMMENT - ABDERRAZAK'S CONFUSED ALLEGATIONS WOULD BE MORE COMPELLING IF THEY DIDN'T NSO NEATLY IF VAGUELY IMPLICATE THE UMT'S CHIEF RIVAL, THE USFP, IN SUCH AN UGLY CRIME. CERTAINLY, ABDERRAZAK MUST BE AWARE OF THE SUSPICIONS IN SOME QUARTERS THAT THE UMT HAD SOMETHING TO GAIN IN SILENCING A DYNAMIC AND POPULAR POLITICAL RIVAL WHICH MAY HAVE INFLUENCED ABDERRAZAK TO PLACE THE BLAME ELSEWHERE.
BRUBECK

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MURDER, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, ALLEGATIONS, EDITORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CASABL00175
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760052-0363
From: CASABLANCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760261/aaaacbbz.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 JUN 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <08 OCT 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UMT DEPSEC GEN ACCUSES USFP IN OMAR BENJELLOUN MURDER
TAGS: PINT, MO, (BENJELLOUN, OMAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006